Match fees/salaries of Hockey players and Wrestlers

436. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the match fees and salaries of Indian Hockey players;

(b) what are the salaries of the Indian Wrestlers; and

(c) whether his Ministry would consider raising their match fees/ salaries and giving incentives, to motivate them to perform better in international competitions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI P. RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) As per information received from Indian Hockey Federation (IHF), it has not prescribed any match fee/salaries for hockey players.

(b) As per information received from Wrestling Federation of India (WFI), it is not paying any match fee/salaries to wrestlers.

(c) This Ministry has no role in this regard as payment of salary/ match fee, if any, is made by the concerned National Sports Federation.

Corporate Sponsorship of Football

437. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) what have been the efforts of the Sports Authority of India to promote football at the grass root level;

(b) what is the number of district-level and State-level football tournaments that are being organized now-a-days;

(c) what is the level of corporate sponsorship of such tournaments; and

(d) what have been this Ministry's efforts to improve on the corporate sponsorship of such tournaments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI P. RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) Sport is a State subject and its promotion at the grass-root level is largely the responsibility of the State Governments. However, the Sports Authority of India (SAI) through its various schemes such as SAI Training Centres (STC), National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC), Army Boys Sports Companies (ABSC) and Special Area Games (SAG) augments the efforts of the State governments in promotion of the sports at the sub-junior and senior level. Football is one of the major sports disciplines for the promotion at sub-junior and junior level. The selected trainees are provided regular coaching, equipment and sports science back up. The trainees are also made to participate in the Inter Sai Hostel Scheme at regional and national level.

(b) and (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) with a view to involve corporate sponsorship, the SAI has recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industries (FICCI).

India's non participation at FIFA

438. SHRI C. RAMANCHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India had not participated in the FIFA World Cup 2002, hosted by South Korea and Japan;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) why Indian playres failed to make their mark in any other sports events except cricket and tennis; and

(d) Government's action plan to promote sports like football, with International standards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI P. RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) India could not qualify for participation in FIFA World Cup 2002.

(c) this is not a fact. Indian sports persons in other sports diciplines like Abhinav Bindra and Ms. Anjali Vedpathak in shooting, P. Gopi Chand